

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 6 and 8-14 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 14 are amended. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 6, 8 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP-542789 in view of Aida et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,445,249). In addition, claims 9-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP '789 in view of Aida et al. and further in view of Wood (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0134733). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The vibration absorber recited in claims 1 and 14 comprises a weight that is held movably with respect to all the directions in the plane and immovably in the vertical direction perpendicular to the plane only by said springs.

The Examiner states that JP '789 is silent with regards to the limitation wherein the weight is arranged immovably in the vertical direction perpendicular to the plane, and that Aida et al. teach in Figures 1 and 2 the limitation of the weight being immovably situated in the vertical direction by way of cooperation between weight 1 and element 9.

However, Aida et al. disclose only element 9 in contact with the bearing 8 to arrange the weight portion 1 immovably in the vertical direction, but do not teach or suggest that the weight is held only by first to fourth two (pairs) of said leaf springs. In other words, Aida et al. do not teach or suggest the idea in which the weight is held movably with respect to all the directions in the plane and immovably in the vertical direction only by the leaf springs.

According, we believe, the dynamic vibration absorbed defined by claims 1 and 14 is unobvious even JP '789 in view of Aida et al. and/or Wood.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all the claims are patentable and that the entire application is in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140 under Order No. PTB-1207-131.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the application in better condition for allowance, she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: /Paul T. Bowen/
Paul T. Bowen
Reg. No. 38,009

PTB:jck
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100